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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

RATIONALIZATION OF THE WORK AND REFORM OF THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

Letter dated 19 August 1993 from the Permanent Representatives of Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We, the Permanent Representatives of the 12 States members of the European Community, have the honour to request, in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an additional item entitled "Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, an explanatory memorandum is annexed to the present letter.

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(Signed) Pedro CATARINO
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(Signed) Juan Antonio YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO
Permanent Representative of Spain

(Signed) Thomas L. RICHARDSON, CMG
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ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. On behalf of the European Community and its member States, Belgium has the honour to propose the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee". This item will be considered by the First Committee.

2. The rationalization of work and the reform of the agenda of the First Committee have been reviewed on several occasions, most recently at the meetings of the First Committee from 8 to 12 March 1993.

3. During these meetings, on behalf of the Community and its member States, Denmark circulated two working papers. The first deals with the rationalization of the work of the First Committee (mentioned in the statement by Denmark, on behalf of the Community and its member States, at the Committee's forty-first meeting). The second deals with the reform of the agenda of the First Committee (A/C.1/47/15 of 9 March 1993).

4. In its resolution 47/54 G, adopted by consensus on 8 April 1993, the General Assembly requested the Chairman of the First Committee to continue his consultations on the further rationalization of the work and the effective functioning of the Committee, taking into account all the views and proposals presented to the Committee, including those related to the thematic clustering of agenda items.

5. In the light of the foregoing and in order to help in attaining these objectives, Belgium, on behalf of the Community and its member States, takes the view that the above considerations relate to the topics to be considered by the General Assembly under the item that it is proposing for inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session.